

extensive scrutiny. The national discussions underway regarding Social Security and the plan for working on a bipartisan basis toward legislation deserve our full support and offer hope that plans for Social Security reform can be developed that will meet the needs and goals of all Americans.

Conclusion

We are privileged to take part in the thorough and careful process by which the Annual Reports are prepared to provide this vital public accounting. We strongly believe that these Reports serve as an early warning of the need for changes to ensure continuation of these programs and not as evidence of their failure to protect future generations. Working cooperatively, with informed public debate, solutions can be found to the financing problems facing America as our population ages.

Erratum :

Table 1 from the research grant summary, "Why SIPP and CPS Produce Different Poverty Measures Among the Elderly," Vol. 60, No. 4, 1997.

Table 1.-Summary of SIPP-CPS differences in poverty measures, 1987-91

Characteristic	[In percents]											
	1987			1988			1990			1991		
	SIPP	CPS	Percent difference ¹	SIPP	CPS	Percent difference ¹	SIPP	CPS	Percent difference ¹	SIPP	CPS	Percent difference ¹
Poverty rates												
All persons.....	11.1	13.4	-16.7	10.8	13.0	-17.2	10.5	13.5	-21.9	12.3	14.2	-13.7
Persons under age 65.....	11.5	13.5	-15.0	11.0	13.2	-16.6	10.9	13.7	-20.4	12.7	14.5	-12.0
Persons aged 65 or older.....	9.0	12.5	-28.1	9.5	12.0	-20.6	8.2	12.2	-32.5	9.1	12.4	-26.5
Men.....	5.2	8.6	-38.9	4.7	8.0	-41.5	4.7	7.6	-38.1	4.9	7.9	-38.6
Women.....	11.7	15.3	-23.7	13.0	14.9	-12.7	10.7	15.4	-30.5	12.1	15.5	-22.2
Aged:												
65-69.....	6.9	9.5	-27.1	6.1	8.9	-31.7	6.0	8.4	-28.3	5.9	10.2	-41.7
70-74.....	7.6	10.5	-21.5	8.8	11.3	-22.3	7.2	11.3	-36.8	1.4	11.2	-34.2
75-79.....	7.7	14.6	-47.7	11.4	13.5	-15.5	8.3	13.3	-37.5	11.2	12.9	-13.5
80 or older.....	15.2	18.6	-18.7	14.0	17.1	-17.9	12.6	18.6	-32.1	13.6	16.9	-19.4
Married.....	2.9	6.0	-52.0	2.3	5.6	-58.7	2.8	5.5	-49.4	2.4	5.3	-54.8
Not married.....	16.6	20.5	-19.0	17.9	19.9	-10.0	14.8	20.3	-27.2	17.3	20.9	-17.4
One-person family.....	20.3	24.7	-17.9	21.7	24.1	-9.8	18.2	24.7	-26.2	22.3	24.9	-10.6
All members aged 65 or older.....	2.0	5.2	-60.8	2.4	4.6	-48.4	2.0	4.6	-51.6	1.8	4.8	-62.6
Some members under age 65.....	5.5	8.8	-38.2	5.2	8.7	-39.4	5.0	7.9	-36.6	4.4	8.0	-45.3
Income-to-needs ratio among the poor												
All persons.....	61.6	56.0	9.9	62.5	55.7	12.2	61.6	56.6	8.8	61.2	55.6	9.9
Persons under 65 age.....	59.8	54.0	10.7	60.4	53.7	12.4	59.6	54.9	8.7	59.4	53.9	10.2
Persons aged 65 or older.....	77.1	72.0	7.0	79.4	72.2	10.0	79.0	71.1	11.0	77.9	70.2	11.1
Poverty gap (in billions of dollars)												
All persons.....	34.9	50.8	-31.4	34.9	52.7	-33.9	40.3	60.8	-33.6	49.8	68.5	-27.2
Persons under 65.....	32.0	46.2	-30.7	31.9	48.1	-33.6	37.3	55.1	-32.3	46.2	62.2	-25.7
Persons aged 65 or older.....	2.8	4.6	-38.2	2.9	4.6	-36.7	3.0	5.6	-46.7	3.6	6.2	-42.0

¹ The SIPP percentage minus the CPS percentage divided by the CPS percentage times 100.

Source: The Urban Institute tabulations based on March CPS and SIPP data, various years.